



## MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

**Meeting Date:** June 15, 2016

**Agenda Item:** Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grants – award of 2016 projects

**Division:** Parks

**Action Needed:** Approval

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 10 minutes

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**Background** (Brief description of the issue, decision to be made, history, etc.):

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) dollars are federal funds available to the states for improvements which benefit outdoor recreation. The funds received by Montana are typically split between improvements at state park sites and a grant program to benefit outdoor recreation facilities in Montana communities. A condition of the program is that sponsors provide a 50% cost match for their respective projects. For the most recent grant cycle opportunity, a total of 10 qualifying LWCF community grant applications were submitted for the following projects;

• Town of Ekalaka	Swimming Pool Replacement	\$150,000
• City of Miles City	Sports Complex Upgrade	\$41,603
• City of Harlowton	Playground Equipment Replacement	\$24,000
• City of Billings	Playground Equipment Replacement	\$125,000
• City of Livingston	Park Development	\$46,000
• Montana FWP	Outdoor Gazebo – ‘Montana Wild’	\$60,000
• Butte/Silver Bow Co.	Swimming Pool Upgrade	\$150,000
• City of Bozeman	Restroom Addition	\$125,000
• City of Whitefish	Whitefish Trail – Trailhead Facilities	\$150,000
• City of Troy	Community Park Upgrades	<u>\$25,168\$</u>
Total		\$896,771

**Public Involvement Process & Results** (Brief description of the type of public involvement and summary of what we heard from the public):

The standard 30-day public comment opportunity will be conducted following Board action. Given the nature of the proposed projects (maintenance of existing public facilities, upgrade of playground equipments/aquatic facilities, improvements to existing local government managed parks, etc.) is expected that any public comments received will be supportive.

Note that due to the time required for formal approval in the federal process, all notifications to project sponsors are qualified as being ‘tentative’.

**Alternatives and Analysis** (Brief description of alternative solutions with analysis of the pros and cons of each):

Alt. #1 – award the recommended 10 community LWCF projects in the amount of \$896,771 as proposed.

Alt. #2 – not award, or modify the approval, of the LWCF community projects proposed in some manner.

**Agency Recommendation and Rationale** (Brief description of our recommendation to the Board and the reasons for it):

It is recommended that the Board approve the award of the 10 community LWCF projects as proposed.

**Proposed Motion** (Draft language the Board could use to adopt the agency recommendation):

I move to concur with the department's approval of the community LWCF fund grants as proposed.